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Letter dated 14 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that I have transmitted a letter dated 13 July 2015 (see annex) to the Secretary-General from the Minister of Transportation of Yemen, along with an unofficial translation, concerning the approval of the Government of the Republic of Yemen of the United Nations draft mechanism to monitor commercial shipping in Yemen.

I would appreciate if the present letter and its annex could be circulated among the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Khaled H. **Alyemany**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 14 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

The Government of Yemen has received from Mr. Amer Daoudi a copy of a proposal for a United Nations verification and inspection mechanism for commercial ships. The proposal was developed after discussions had been held between the two sides regarding the need for the United Nations to play a primary role in monitoring commercial ships, which meet 90 per cent of Yemeni civilians' needs, and the possibility that it could do so. The proposal presented by the United Nations sets out two sets of tasks that are distinct in respect of their nature and the party responsible for them.

The tasks set out in the first part are collection of data and information, and audit and inspection of goods in the country of origin. The Government of Yemen accepts all of the tasks set out in this part of the document, on condition that they should be assigned to the United Nations verification centre. The Government of Yemen proposes that this part should be amended, such that the centre shall be established and operated in partnership by the United Nations, the Government of Yemen and the Arab Coalition.

The tasks set out in the second part are monitoring and inspection of commercial ships destined for or leaving Yemen. In its resolution 2216 (2015), paragraph 15, the Security Council entrusted those tasks to the States neighbouring Yemen when it called on them to inspect in their territory, including seaports and airports, all cargo destined for or coming from Yemen. In addition to the mandate given by the Security Council to neighbouring States, the Yemeni authorities have authorized coalition forces to impose an air, sea and land embargo and to implement the above-mention Security Council resolution, including the monitoring and inspection of ships entering and leaving Yemeni ports. The Arab coalition is fully capable of carrying out that task using its ships and inspection teams, which are deployed in the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and Arabian Sea. Accordingly, there is no need to amend the legal basis for the authorization granted to the Arab coalition States in the second part.

In view of the foregoing, we should like to inform you that the Government of Yemen approves the proposal, provided that it incorporates the above-mentioned amendments, that all tasks set out in the first part are assigned to the centre and that the tasks set out in the second part, namely, the monitoring and inspection of ships, are assigned to the Arab coalition.

We should be grateful if you would inform the Secretary-General and the members of the Security Council that the Government approves of the proposal.

(*Signed*) Badr Muhammad **Basalmah**
Minister of Transport